From: Thiyagarajan Somasundaram
To: Council Clerk
Subject: Fwd: Solution & Opposition to Ordinance #24-100
Date: Monday, February 24, 2025 11:00:33 AM

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From: **Thiyagarajan Somasundaram** <epostraja@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Feb 23, 2025 at 8:10 PM
Subject: Solution & Opposition to Ordinance #24-100
To: <KShafer@delawareohio.net>, <CFrazier@delawareohio.net>, <LGriffith@delawareohio.net>, <AHaynes@delawareohio.net>, <CHoffman@delawareohio.net>, <KRider@delawareohio.net>, criggle@delawareohio.net <criggle@delawareohio.net>

Dear Mayor Riggle, Cory Hoffman, and Members of the city council,

I Strongly oppose Ordinance #24-100.

Why do I oppose it?

Please see the tabulation below, in which I compared the Central Ohio income tax rates.

Below Cities levies the tabulated income tax on the income. However, all the Cities provide a **100%** credit for taxes paid to the municipality where a resident works.

Central Ohio Income City Tax Rates	Tax %	Credit for Taxes paid to another City
Bexley	2.50%	100%
Columbus	2.50%	100%
Gahanna	2.50%	100%
Grandview Heights	2.50%	100%
Reynoldsburg	2.50%	100%
Upper Arlington	2.50%	100%
Whitehall	2.50%	100%
Worthington	2.50%	100%
Dublin	2.00%	100%
Grove City	2.00%	100%
Hilliard	2.00%	100%
New Albany	2.00%	100%
Westerville	2.00%	100%
Powell	2.00%	100%
Delaware	1.85%	50%

Delaware's 50% income tax credit seems unusual and lowest in central Ohio and also the city has the lowest income tax rate in central Ohio at 1.85%.

Folks working in Columbus, who typically pay 2.5% income tax, would effectively be double-taxed by paying an additional 0.925% to Delaware, bringing their total tax burden to 3.425%. This double taxation raises legal and common-sense concerns.

Eliminating the 50% credit and imposing the full 1.85% Delaware tax would result in a combined Columbus/Delaware tax rate of 4.35%. This is excessive.

Delaware offers the same basic city services (roads, fire, sanitation, police, etc.) as other municipalities, so there's no justification for this increased tax burden on residents who reside in Delaware and work elsewhere. I oppose this ordinance.

Solution:
- Increase the Delaware income tax rate for folks earning in Delaware from 1.85% to 2 or 2.5% for all your budget needs.

- Give 100% Credit for tax paid to another city, to avoid double taxation

Result:
- Support the overall sustainable growth of Delaware

- This will encourage more people to stay in Delaware and pay property tax.

- Promote the development of Apartments and rentals, as of now because of weird taxation property developers are staying away.

Regards,
Thiyagu
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Delaware
Ohio 43015